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Date: March 9, 2001 Contact: Mary White Phone: (505) 438-7404

45-Day Nomination Period Begins For BLM's New Mexico Resource Advisory Council

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the New Mexico Lieutenant Governor's Office are calling for nominations for the New Mexico Resource Advisory Council (RAC) to fill member terms expiring this year. The RAC provides advice and recommendations to BLM on land use planning and management of the public lands. Public nominations will be considered for 45 days after the publication date of this notice - April 23, 2001.

The 15 member New Mexico RAC is filling positions for 6 expiring terms. Appointed RAC membership must be balanced and representative of the various interests concerned with the management of the public lands. These include three categories:

- 1) Holders of Federal grazing permits and representatives of energy and mineral development, timber industry, transportation or rights-of-way, off-highway vehicle use, and commercial recreation;
- 2) Representatives of nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, archaeological and historic interests, dispersed recreation, and wild horse and burro groups;
- 3) Holders of State, county, or local elected office; employees of a State agency responsible for management of natural resources; members of an Indian Tribe; academicians involved in natural sciences; and the public at large.

Nominations will be reviewed by BLM State Director Michelle Chávez and Lieutenant Governor Walter Bradley. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton for approval. To nominate someone or yourself, complete and submit a Background Information Nomination Form. All nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from interest or organizations represented. All nominees should have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision making. Nomination forms will be available at BLM offices in Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Grants, Farmington, Cuba, Taos, Socorro, Las Cruces, Roswell, and Carlsbad.

For more information or to obtain a nomination form by mail, call Mary White at the BLM in Santa Fe: (505) 438-7404 or 7514. You may e-mail requests to: mary_white@nm.blm.gov.

Nominations must be postmarked on or before April 23, 2001 and sent to:

Mary White Bureau of Land Management/RAC Office of External Affairs P.O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115